

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5

1. A communication apparatus comprising:
receiving means for receiving a plurality of
image data and accompanying communication information;
primary storage means for temporarily storing
10 said image data and communication information, said
primary storage means being adapted for high-speed
forwarding;

secondary storage means having a storage
capacity greater than that of said primary storage
15 means;

forwarding means for converting said image
data to a standard format and forwarding said standard
format image data together with said communication
information;

20 network communication means connected to a
server apparatus via a network for transmitting said
standard format image data together with said
communication information to said server apparatus; and

retransmitting means operable in case of a
25 failure of transmission, wherein said retransmitting

means saves said image data and communication
information stored in said primary storage means in said
secondary storage means, deletes said image data from
said primary storage means, converts the saved image
5 data into a standard format, retransmits the standard
format image data together with said communication
information to said server apparatus and repeats
retransmission in case of a failure of the preceding
retransmission.

10

2. The communication apparatus as claimed in
15 claim 1, wherein said primary storage means is an SAF
(Store And Forward) memory and said secondary storage
means is a hard disk.

20

3. A program for transmitting image data to a
server apparatus, said program causing a computer to
function as:

25

receiving means for receiving a plurality of

image data and accompanying communication information;

primary storage means for temporarily storing
said image data and communication information, said
primary storage means being adapted for high-speed
5 forwarding;

secondary storage means having a storage
capacity greater than that of said primary storage
means;

forwarding means for converting said image
10 data to a standard format and forwarding said standard
format image data together with said communication
information;

network communication means connected to a
server apparatus via a network for transmitting said
15 standard format image data together with said
communication information to said server apparatus; and

retransmitting means operable in case of a
failure of transmission, wherein said retransmitting
means saves said image data and communication
20 information stored in said primary storage means in said
secondary storage means, deletes said image data from
said primary storage means, converts the saved image
data into a standard format, retransmits the standard
format image data together with said communication
25 information to said server apparatus and repeats

retransmission in case of a failure of the preceding retransmission.

5

4. A computer readable medium storing a program for transmitting image data to a server apparatus, said program causing a computer to function

10 as:

receiving means for receiving a plurality of image data and accompanying communication information;

primary storage means for temporarily storing said image data and communication information, the
15 primary storage means being adapted for high-speed forwarding;

secondary storage means having a storage capacity greater than that of said primary storage means;

20 forwarding means for converting said image data to a standard format and forwarding said standard format image data together with said communication information;

network communication means connected to a
25 server apparatus via a network for transmitting said

standard format image data together with said
communication information to said server apparatus; and

retransmitting means operable in case of a
failure of transmission, wherein said retransmitting
5 means saves said image data and communication
information stored in said primary storage means in said
secondary storage means, deletes said image data from
said primary storage means, converts the saved image
data into a standard format, retransmits the standard
10 format image data together with said communication
information to said server apparatus and repeats
retransmission in case of a failure of the preceding
retransmission.

15

5. A method of transmitting image data to a
server apparatus using a preprogrammed computer, said
20 method comprising the steps of:

receiving image data and accompanying
communication information;

storing said image data and communication
information in a primary storage means adapted for a
25 high-speed forwarding;

converting said image data to a standard format and forwarding said standard format image data together with said communication information;

5 carrying out network communications for transmitting said standard format image data together with said communication information to said server apparatus via a network;

10 in case of a failure of transmission, saving said image data and communication information stored in said primary storage means in said secondary storage means having a storage capacity greater than that of said primary storage means and deleting said image data in said primary storage means; and

15 converting the saved image data into a standard format, retransmitting the standard format image data together with said communication information to said server apparatus and repeating retransmission in case of a failure of the preceding retransmission.

20

6. A communication system comprising:

25 at least one communication apparatus having a primary storage means for temporarily storing image data

and accompanying communication information received
through a public telephone line;

a server apparatus connected to said
communication apparatus via a network; and

5 at least one user terminal connected to said
server apparatus via said network,

said communication apparatus having a
secondary storage means such that said image data and
accompanying communication information are saved in said
10 secondary storage means are deleted from said primary
storage means in case of a failure of a transmission to
said server apparatus.